

Serial Number 10/033,868
14X200134 / GEM-0084

Amendment to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1 (currently amended): An apparatus comprising:
an examination arm with, at one end thereof, an image receiver and a radiation delivery head at the other end,
a support on which the arm is mounted;
the arm being mounted for rotation about a first axis substantially perpendicular to the direction of the examination arm and passing through the center of an examination position intended for an object to be examined, such that a switch-over from a cranio-caudal image to a side view image may result from rotation of the examination arm about the first axis with the object to be examined substantially stationary;
the arm being further mounted for rotation about a second horizontal axis substantially perpendicular to the first axis and to the examination arm; and
a support column on which the support can be moved up and down vertically.

2 (original): The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the examination arm is mounted on a support for rotation about the second axis via a C-shaped arm.

3 (original): The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the examination arm is mounted for rotation about the second axis with a range of angular travel varying from a vertical position to a horizontal position.

4 (original): The apparatus of claim 2 wherein the examination arm is mounted for rotation about the second axis with a range of angular travel varying from a vertical position to a horizontal position.

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5 (original): The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the examination arm is mounted for rotation about the first axis with a range of angular travel greater than or equal to 180° at both sides of a vertical position of the examination arm.

6 (original): The apparatus of claim 2 wherein the examination arm is mounted for rotation about the first axis with a range of angular travel greater than or equal to 180° at both sides of a vertical position of the examination arm.

7 (original): The apparatus of claim 3 wherein the examination arm is mounted for rotation about the first axis with a range of angular travel greater than or equal to 180° at both sides of a vertical position of the examination arm.

8 (currently amended): A method for taking images of an object with an apparatus comprising:

an examination arm with, at one end thereof, an image receiver and a radiation delivery head at the other end;

a support on which the arm is mounted the arm being mounted for rotation about a first axis substantially perpendicular to the direction of the examination arm and passing through the center of an examination position intended for an object to be examined, such that a switch-over from a cranio-caudal image to a side view image may result from rotation of the examination arm about the first axis with the object to be examined substantially stationary;

the arm being further mounted for rotation about a second horizontal axis substantially perpendicular to the first axis and to the examination arm;

a support column on which the support can be moved up and down vertically;

comprising the steps of:

adjusting the position of the support on the support column and the angular position of the examination arm about the second axis;

adjusting the angular position of the examination arm about the first axis; and

positioning the object and taking the images.

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9 (original): The method of claim 8 comprising the steps of:
releasing the object;
changing the angular position of the support arm about the first axis; and
installing the object and taking the images.

10 (original): The method of claim 8 wherein the angular rotation of the examination arm about the first axis defines a vertical plane.

11 (original): The method of claim 9 wherein the angular rotation of the examination arm about the first axis defines a vertical plane.

12 (original): The method of claim 8 wherein the angular rotation of the examination arm about the first axis defines an inclined plane.

13 (original): The method of claim 9 wherein the angular rotation of the examination arm about the first axis defines an inclined plane.

14 (original) The method of claim 8 wherein angular rotation of the examination arm about the first axis defines a horizontal plane.

15 (original) The method of claim 9 wherein angular rotation of the examination arm about the first axis defines a horizontal plane.